

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (withdrawn)

2. (withdrawn)

3. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The plication band according to claim ~~4~~ 28 wherein said bridge portion further comprises a through-hole for receiving a linking construct whereby said plication band may be linked to ~~an adjacent~~ a second plication band of like construction.

4. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The plication band according to claim 3 wherein said bridge portion is crimpable so as to capture said linking construct within said through-hole.

5. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The plication band according to claim 3 wherein said through-hole has a circular configuration so as to receive a round filament.

6. (Currently amended) A The plication band according to claim 3 wherein said through-hole has a elongated configuration so as to receive a flat strap.

7. - 10. (Withdrawn)

11. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The plication band according to claim 9 3 wherein ~~said the~~ linking construct comprises a round filament, and further wherein said through-holes ~~have~~ is provided with a circular configuration so as to receive said round filament.

12. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The plication band according to claim 9 3 wherein ~~said the~~ linking construct comprises a flat strap, and further wherein said through-holes ~~have~~ is provided with an elongated configuration so as to receive said flat strap.

13. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The plication band according to claim 7 3 wherein said linking construct comprises a resilient material.

14. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The plication band according to claim 7 3 wherein said linking construct comprises a formable material such that said formable material can be set into a desired shape.

15. - 27. (Withdrawn)

28. (New) A plication band for use to effect a geometric change in living tissue, the band comprising a bridge portion interconnecting spaced first and second leg portions extending in parallel therefrom, each of said leg portions having a sharp free end adapted to pierce the tissue, and said bridge portion being deformable to effect movement of the leg portion free ends toward

each other to effect the geometric change in tissue in which the free ends are disposed.